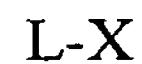


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to a method of treating lupus erythematosus. In one embodiment, the method comprises the step of administering to a patient suffering from lupus erythematosus an effective amount of a composition comprising a conjugate or complex of the general formula



where the group L comprises a ligand capable of binding to activated macrophages or other stimulated immune cells, and the group X comprises an immunogen, a cytotoxin, or another compound capable of altering macrophage function. In another embodiment, the method comprises the step of administering to a patient suffering from lupus erythematosus an effective amount of a composition comprising a conjugate of the general formula



where the group L comprises a vitamin, or a vitamin-receptor binding analog or derivative thereof, and the group X comprises an immunogen, a cytotoxin, or another compound capable of altering macrophage function.